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May 25, 1966

Mr. Vincent Salandria
2226 Delancey Place
Philadelphia 3, Pa.

Dear Mr. Salandria,

Your encouraging and friendly note is of a kind I could have used more of lately, and I do thank you for it. Because you have worked in the same field and because we used some of the same material differently, I would like to hear from you after you have read the book.

As you will note, it was finished in mid-February 1965, except for a few small additions suggested by the very helpful Sylvia Meagher.

You may be interested in knowing that the first copies of the Epstein book are out. I had a brief glance at a press copy today. In Washington, Viking was offering it to bookstores for June delivery last Thursday, whether or not earlier.

If he did not tell you at the time, it was I who told Stephen Barber of the London Sunday Telegraph about your writing. Those copies you sent him, he sent to England. He has been very kind and more than helpful to me.

We have, as yet, arranged no distribution outside the Washington area. In Washington we do have a commercial distributor now. I have written to a number of the smaller magazines asking if they'd advertise the book to be compensated by either a commission on each order or by selling it for the bookstore's profit. To date I have not had a single acceptance, and only a few have responded, one rather unpleasantly. Your last sentence expresses a hope we sure would like to see happen, for we had to borrow the down payment for the printer and the balance is due in a month and we do not have it!

Thank you for your interest and order, which I'll mail in Washington early in the morning and save a day. If any other order, we'll mail the same day, but we live in the country, with one incoming and one outgoing mail daily, so the books we mail after mail time today will not go out until mail time tomorrow, and they will then not leave the area until tomorrow night! Not all the country, as you can see, has yet reached the 20th. century! But when I go to Washington, which has been almost daily lately, I'll mail any orders there.

I have personally delivered copies to the correspondents for both the Bulletin and the Inquirer.

P.S. And we are letting bookstores have the book at normal discounts for hardback and on consignment. The 19 I approached took 748 copies. The one I have been able to check is doing very well with them.

Sincerely yours,

Harold Weisberg